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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

ANNUAL REPORT

of the health of

WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Report presented by

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AUGUST 1964

97 NEW ROAD
WARE



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WARE RURAL DISTRICT

Annual Report on the Health of the District
for the Year 1963

I N D E X

	<u>Page</u>
<u>PREFACE</u>	4 - 5
<u>PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT</u> - Staff - Committee	6
<u>SECTION A</u>	
<u>VITAL STATISTICS ETC.</u>	
Population)	
Area in Acres)	
No. of Inhabited Houses) Table 1	7
Rateable Value)	
Product of Penny Rate)	
Births and Birth Rate)	
Deaths and Death Rate) Table 2	8 - 10
Rates for England and Wales)	
<u>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</u> - Prevalence and Control	11 - 13
<u>DEATHS</u> - Causes of, during 1963	14
<u>GENERAL STATISTICS</u>	15 - 17
<u>SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES</u>	
Laboratory Service, County Council Health)	
Services, Hospital, Medical and Dental) 18	- 19
Services, Other Services)	
<u>SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA</u>	
Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector	20
<u>SECTION D - FACTORIES ACTS</u> - Summary of Return	31

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1963
W A R E R U R A L D I S T R I C T

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Councillors, Ware Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health of the Rural District of Ware for the year ending 31st December, 1963.

During that year the inhabitants of the district enjoyed good health. During the early part of the year there were some typhoid fever contacts in the area, these being inevitable because of the close proximity of Harlow where there was an outbreak, but repeated bacteriological tests showed that these contacts were free from infection.

Reference has been made in the text of the report to the discovery of carriers of food poisoning organisms and this again underlines the importance of personal cleanliness and hygiene in food handlers. The enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations, the constant surveillance of food premises and the hygiene indoctrination and propaganda which go hand in hand with these measures are amongst the most important functions of a Public Health Department. The general public is gradually becoming more and more aware of the vital necessity of clean food and personal cleanliness and can play its part by registering complaints if and when it considers that food handling is not carried out satisfactorily.

Together with a slight fall in the population there has also been a fall in the total number of live births and of deaths. Once again the number of deaths over the age of 70 has been high totalling 70 out of 138 or 50.7%. Last year's percentage was 51.7%.

Private water supplies have again been subject to continued supervision throughout the year and many improvements have been effected. Where standards have not been bacteriologically satisfactory householders have been advised to boil their water before use.

During the year continued improvements have been made in the provision of main sewerage.

Increasing work in the Public Health Department and the anticipated burden of more meat inspections made with extra detail led to the appointment in December, 1963, of Mr. D. O. Knight as an Additional Public Health Inspector. Mr. Knight came to Ware from Sevenoaks Rural District Council and I wish him success in his new appointment.

Once again I would like to thank the Chairman and the Council for their interest in the work of the Public Health Department throughout the year. I wish also to thank Mr. Goold and Mr. Bower for their constant help.

My thanks are due to the other Chief Officers for their co-operation and to Miss Turner for coping with the statistical data.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant

GORDON M. FRIZELLE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Radiological Protection.

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High Street,
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Haileybury & Imperial Service College.
Tel: Hoddesdon 2040

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor) - A.D.G. GOOLD

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J. Board.
Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

- J.G. BOWER - M.A P.H.I. and Certificate for Meat & Food
Inspection.
- *D.O. KNIGHT - M.A.P.H.I. and Certificate for Meat & Food
Inspection.
Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to
Buildings & Public Works.
Diploma in Public Health & Hygiene.

* As from 9th December, 1963.

Rural District Council Offices,
97, New Road,
Ware, Herts.
Tel: WARE 2292/3/4

Clerical duties in the Public Health Department were under-
taken by Mr. M.J.Rush/Miss D. Turner, Engineer & Surveyor's
Department.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

During the Session 1963/4 Public Health matters were dealt
with by the Council under the Chairmanship of Councillor
Mr. C.A. Spence.

S E C T I O N A
GENERAL STATISTICS 1963

Table 1

(Figures for 1962 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Ware Rural District.

12,290 (12,300)

Natural Increase or decrease	- 1
Migration in or out	- 9

GENERAL STATISTICS

<u>Area in Acres</u>	29,060
----------------------	--------

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books

3,529 (3,516)

Number of Houses per acre	0.12
Number of Persons per acre	0.42
Number of Persons per house	3.5

<u>Rateable Value of District</u>	£506,060*
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<u>Estimated Sum Represented by a Penny</u> <u>Rate</u>	£1,938*
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*As at 1st April, 1964

VITAL STATISTICS 1963

Table 2
(Figures for 1962 are shown in brackets)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>		Total	148	(159)
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			12.04	(12.92)
Area Comparability Factor for Births			1.18	(1.00)
Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			14.20	(12.92)
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>		Total	3	(3)
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still births			19.87	(18.86)
<u>BIRTHS</u>	Total Live and Still-births		151	(162)
		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	Total Number	76	72	148
	Legitimate	71	70	141
	Illegitimate	5	2	7
Still Births	Total Number	2	1	3
	Legitimate	2	1	3
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births			4.73	(1.88)
<u>COMPARISON RATES</u>				
		<u>Ware Rural District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Live Birth Rate		12.04	18.32	18.2
Area Comparability Factor		1.18	0.95	-
Standardised Birth Rate		14.20	17.40	18.2
Still Birth Rate		19.87	15.62	17.3

VITAL STATISTICS
Table 2 continued

<u>INFANT DEATHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infants under one year	Total	5	0	5
	Legitimate	5	0	5
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
Neo-Natal Mortality (first four week included above in total of infant deaths of under one year)	Total	2	0	2
	Legitimate	2	0	2
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	Total	33.79	(25.16)	
	Legitimate	35.46	(18.87)	
	Illegitimate	-	-	
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)		13.51	(25.16)	

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Deaths, including abortion	1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	0.66

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural District</u>	<u>Hertford County</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Infant Mortality Rate	33.79	15.05	20.9
Legitimate	35.46	14.9	-
Illegitimate	-	16.61	-
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	13.51	10.05	14.2
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	6.75	8.87	-
Perinatal Mortality Rate	26.49	24.35	-
Maternal Mortality Rate	0.66	0.37	0.028

VITAL STATISTICS
Table 2 continued

DEATHS

Total Deaths of all ages	138	(158)
Males	77	(101)
Females	61	(57)
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.22	(12.84)
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	1.06	(0.91)
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population.	11.89	(11.56)

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Ware Rural</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Death Rate	11.22	9.67	-
Area Comparability Factor	1.06	1.13	-
Standardised Death Rate	11.89	10.93	12.2

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified
during the year.)

Diseases	Total all Ages	Age Groups in Years					
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65
Measles	189	-	50	120	18	1	-
Whooping Cough	3	-	2	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	-	-	1	-	3	2
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	2	-	1	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-	-	-	2	-

Incidence of Diseases during the different months

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Month and number of cases</u>
Measles	January (11), February (83), March (43), April (16), May (16), July (1), August (2), October (9), November (5), December (3).
Whooping Cough	February (1), October (2)
Pneumonia	February (1), March (3), October (1), November (1).
Scarlet Fever	March (1), May (1), June (1)
Erysipelas	May (1)
Tuberculosis	April (1), May (1).
Food Poisoning	November (2).

DISTRIBUTION OF DISEASES AMONGST THE DIFFERENT PARISHES

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>DISEASE</u>
Eastwick & Gilston	Measles (14), Tuberculosis (1), Scarlet Fever (1)
Great Amwell	Measles (46), Pneumonia (1) Food Poisoning (2), Scarlet Fever (1).
Great Munden	Measles (4), Whooping Cough (1).
Little Munden	Measles (6), Pneumonia (1), Scarlet Fever (1).
Hunsdon	Measles (4), Whooping Cough (1), Pneumonia (1)
St. Margarets	Measles (5)
Stanstead Abbots	Measles (13), Erysipelas (1), Pneumonia (1).
Standon	Measles (90), Pneumonia (2).
Thundridge	Measles (3).
Ware Rural	Measles (3), Tuberculosis (1), Whooping Cough (1).
Widford	Measles (3).

TUBERCULOSIS

The following is a Summary of Tuberculosis Notifications etc. during 1963.

The year commenced with 73 cases on the register.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Males	42	2
Females	24	5
Four new cases were notified for the first time		
Males	3	-
Females	1	-
There were eight inward transfers from another area		
Males	7	-
Females	1	-
Eight patients left the District		
Males	7	-
Females	1	-
Five patients were pronounced CURED		
Males	4	-
Females	1	-
Eight patients were lost sight of		
Males	4	-
Females	3	1
The year ended with 64 cases on the register		
Males	37	2
Females	21	4

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1963

<u>Line No.</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	ALL CAUSES	77	61
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	1
3	Syphilitic disease	0	1
4	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0
6	Meningoccal infections	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8	Measles	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	5
11	" " lung, bronchus	2	1
12	" " breast	0	4
13	" " uterus	0	0
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	2
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0
16	Diabetes	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	9
18	Coronary disease, angina	15	12
19	Hypertension with heart disease	0	1
20	Other heart disease	10	7
21	Other circulatory disease	1	3
22	Influenza	0	1
23	Pneumonia	9	4
24	Bronchitis	5	1
25	Other disease of respiratory system	0	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	1
31	Congenital malformations	0	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	4
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	0
34	All other accidents	4	3
35	Suicide	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0

GENERAL STATISTICS

The year 1963 has seen a decrease of 10 in the population figures. The 1963 figure is 12,290 while that for 1962 was 12,300. This is attributable to a natural decrease of 1 and an outward migration of 9. The number of inhabited houses rose from 3516 to 3529, whilst the number of houses per acre remained at 0.12.

VITAL STATISTICS

There has again been a fall in the total number of live births, there having been 148 as compared with 159 in 1962. The live birth rate has in consequence decreased from 12.92 to 12.04. The number of still births was 3, this being the same figure as that of 1962. The deaths of infants under 1 year of age rose from 4 to 5. There was one maternal death.

The total number of deaths at all ages fell from 158 in 1962 to 138 in 1963, this giving a death rate of 11.22

CAUSES OF DEATH

All forms of heart disease, including Coronary Disease, were again responsible for the majority of deaths, these numbering 49 out of 148 or 3.31 per cent. Out of these 49, 27 were due to coronary disease, of which 27 took place after the age of 55. Vascular lesion of the nervous system came next with 19 deaths or 1.28 per cent, 16 of which occurred over the age of 65.

Third place was taken equally by malignant conditions and pneumonia with 13 deaths each closely followed by "other defined and ill-defined diseases" with 12 deaths. 12 out of the 13 deaths due to pneumonia happened over the age of 65. Deaths due to accident figure comparatively prominently there being 1 death due to a motor accident and 7 due to other accidental causes. These latter were caused respectively by a fall at home, drowning, crushing by a tractor, multiple injuries, post operative collapse, asphyxia due to inhaled material and a gun-shot wound.

The Registrar General's figures for deaths under 1 year of age are 3, while I find there to be 4. One at 9 months due to a motor accident, one at 4 months due to paroxysmal tachycardia, one at 5 weeks due to acute respiratory failure and one at 2 days

due to atelectasis.

Following the practice of recent years the number of deaths in the more advanced age groups are from :-

<u>70-74</u>	<u>75-79</u>	<u>80-84</u>	<u>85-89</u>	<u>90-94</u>	<u>95-100</u>
18	24	20	13	1	1

These total 74 out of 138, this again being a percentage similar to that of last year and the previous year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Apart from a small outbreak of measles in the first quarter of the year there is fortunately nothing of any consequence to report.

Matters might, however, have acquired a different aspect because of the discovery that food handlers in a hotel were carriers of organisms of food poisoning. Close co-operation with their own doctor and the management of the hotel led to their segregation and treatment and bacteriological examination of all the hotel staff. The carriers were not allowed to return to work until three negative specimens had been obtained.

TUBERCULOSIS

The year began with 73 cases on the register and not 77 as was stated to be the figure for the end of 1962. These were made up as follows - pulmonary 66, non-pulmonary 7. During the year 4 new cases were notified and 8 inward transfers took place, all being pulmonary cases. On the other hand 8 patients left the district, 5 patients were cured and 8 were lost sight of. In consequence the year ended with 64 cases in the register, 58 being pulmonary and 6 non-pulmonary.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

One of the important functions of a Public Health Department is to keep a close watch on food handling premises and standards are generally improving in consequence.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 & 1951

I am glad to state that no action was required under Section 47 of these Acts.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE & MEALS ON WHEELS.

The Rural District is largely being covered by the Meals on Wheels Service, run under the aegis of the W.V.S. . Areas now served are - The Mundens, Eastwick & Gilston (run in conjunction with High Wych), High Cross & Thundridge, Great Amwell, Stanstead Abbots and Stanstead St. Margarets. A separate scheme is run at Hunsdon.

BUILDING

No new houses were built by the Council during 1963. Private enterprise built 19 houses.

S E C T I O N B .

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR WARE RURAL DISTRICT

LABORATORY SERVICE

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946, are available for Ware Rural District Council. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres.

Number of Nurses - 5. Welfare Centres - 6
(including 1 Mobile Clinic).

Vaccinations, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough & Poliomyelitis Immunisations.

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centre will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bull Plain, Hertford (Telephone: Hertford 3232).

Care and After Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Depot has been established in the Town. Address available at Council Offices. A charge may be made for both the above Services.

Ambulance Service

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford (Tel: Hertford 3013), Bishop's Stortford (Tel: Bishop's Stortford 1101), Ware (Tel: Ware 2141). Except in emergency an Ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Mental Health Officer, Mr. J.H. Webster, Collett Road, Ware, Herts (Tel: Ware 2541).

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been established in Hertford.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The area is served by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, and the Herts and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Chronic sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, on behalf of the County Council.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

Six doctors practise in Ware Rural District.

There are no Dental Surgeons in the District but the area is served by Dental Surgeons at Hertford, Hoddesdon, Ware, Buntingford and Bishop's Stortford.

OTHER SERVICES

There is an Old People's Welfare Committee at Standon and Puckeridge; also an independently managed "Welcome Club" with a membership of 120 persons.

Women's Institutes are active at ten centres in the District.

S E C T I O N C .

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA - REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1963

WATER SUPPLY

Two parishes in the southern extremity of the district, Great Amwell and Stanstead St. Margarets, are within the statutory area of the Metropolitan Water Board and supplied by them with a public supply of water. The source is the Rye Common Pumping Station and there is a reservoir at Hertford Heath. The water is subject to filtration and chlorination. It is a hard chalk water.

The remainder of the Rural District is supplied by the Lee Valley Water Company. The source of the Lee Valley Water Company's supply is a pumping station at Standon where there are two boreholes in the chalk. The water is pumped into supply after chlorination. A water tower at Old Hall Green acts as a balancing reservoir.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY

There are approximately 70 private bores and wells in the district still being used for domestic purposes. They serve over 130 properties. Routine samples have been taken from most of these premises throughout the year and the majority were found to be satisfactory. There were still several, however, not up to standard and in these cases occupiers were advised to boil all water before use.

Quality of Water

Bacteriological

In addition to samples submitted by the Public Health Department for analysis, the Lee Valley Water Company send monthly reports of bacteriological sampling to this Council. Every result sent by the Company has been satisfactory.

Distribution of Water Services

Dwellinghouses supplied by public water mains in 1963:-

Parish	Number of houses	Population (approx)	Main direct to house	Main to stand-pipes
Eastwick	64	170	56	8
Gilston	64	227	64	-
Great Amwell	726	2614	709	5
Great Munden	109	433	77	17
Hunsdon	375	1185	359	5
Little Munden	177	560	167	9
St. Margarets	64	237	64	-
Standon	891	3016	854	14
Stanstead Abbots	478	1590	448	8
Thundridge	259	805	238	6
Ware Rural	239	1027	203	9
Widford	137	436	122	15
TOTAL	3583	12300	3361	96

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Standon and Puckeridge.

These two villages provide a common drainage area and sewers have been laid to a point in Paper Mill Lane, Standon, from which the sewage is raised to a Sewage Disposal Works south of the village. These works consist of a receiving chamber, balancing tank, sedimentation tank and duplicate rotary percolating filters followed by humus tanks.

High Cross and Wadesmill.

These two villages which are at the southern end of the Standon parish are drained to a pumping station at Wadesmill from which sewage is raised to join the Ware Urban District Council sewers at the Urban District Boundary on the main Cambridge Road. The sewage is ultimately disposed of at Rye Meads.

Great Amwell and St. Margarets.

Great Amwell parish may be divided for drainage purposes into four areas.

- (1) Hertford Heath, which is drained through an outfall (which is a joint responsibility of the Ware and Hertford Rural District Councils) to the Hertford Borough disposal works at Hertford.
- (2) The Haileybury College area which is drained by means of a main sewer to the sewers of the Hoddesdon Urban District Council and eventually disposed of by them to Rye Meads. Some properties in Hoddesdon Urban District make use of this outfall.
- (3) The southern portion of Great Amwell village, which includes what is known as the Gypsy Lane area and the Old Mylne Estate. This is drained on each side of a water shed to ultimately join at the St. Margarets pumping station from whence the sewage is pumped into the Middle Lee Trunk Sewer and the sewage disposed of at Rye Meads. Properties in Hoddesdon Urban District are drained to this system in the Stanstead Road and St. Margarets Road areas.
- (4) The northern portion of the village is drained to a pumping station discharging to St. Margarets pumping station and ultimately to Rye Meads.

Stanstead Abbots

This village is drained to a point in Accommodation Road where the Council once had a pumping station and connected directly to the Middle Lee Trunk Sewer. Sewage is disposed of at Rye Meads.

Hunsdon

The village is sewered to a sewage disposal works near Bonningtons. A scheme for connection to the Middle Lee Disposal Works has been approved by the Ministry and is expected to be completed during 1964.

Eastwick

This village is now drained to the Stort Valley sewer discharging to Rye Meads sewage disposal scheme.

Gilston

This village has been sewered in conjunction with Eastwick, and is now connected to Rye Meads.

Dane End

The village of Dane End in the parish of Little Munden has been sewered and sewage disposal works constructed in the village.

Haultwick

A scheme has been prepared to connect the drainage of Haultwick to the Dane End works via Green End.

Widford & Wareside.

A scheme to drain these two villages in conjunction with Much Hadham in the Braughing Rural District will commence in 1964 and be completed by 1966.

Connections

The number of properties connected to the main sewers during the year was 29.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cesspools

The Council have continued their policy to discourage the construction of small water-tight cesspools and encourage the construction of septic tanks with either filters or land irrigation. There are few conventional type cesspools as far as is known although many old cesspools used as septic tanks are in need of improvement. The making of improvement grants has helped to improve the drainage of many houses and has provided modern type septic tanks. All new houses built where main drainage is not available must have well designed septic tanks.

The Council remove sludge from septic tanks once a year by means of their two cesspool emptying vehicles. The work is done to a definite time table and all occupiers of premises know, to within a week, when the tank will be de-sludged. Tanks which are too small or otherwise inadequate to deal with the drainage of the premises and need to be emptied more frequently are dealt with either by the owners themselves or by a private firm working under contract to the owner or by means of a request to the Council. One emptying per year is allowed free of charge by the Council if carried out in rotation according to the time-table.

Any emptying taken out of turn extra to the annual emptying has to be paid for on the scale of charges in force at the time. At the moment the charge is £3 per load of approximately 1,000 gallons with a minimum charge of £3.0.0d. Cesspools or septic tanks which are in the vicinity of public sewers and lie within the area shown on the Council's resolution map are not emptied free of charge at any time.

Pail Closets

The Council's cesspool emptying vehicles are fitted with hoppers and vacuum pumps for the purpose of taking the contents of pail closets. These are emptied twice a week throughout the whole district. They are emptied free of charge in an area which lies outside the prescribed areas which are in the proximity of the public sewers. The owners or occupiers of premises within the prescribed areas who require this service have to make

a request and pay 20/-d. per quarter for one pail to be emptied twice a week. This charge is intended to encourage property owners to convert their pail closets to water closets.

The number of pail closets in the district is over 300 but this figure will be greatly reduced when the sewerage schemes at Haultwick, Widford and Wareside are completed. In addition owners of houses situated outside the sewered areas are being encouraged to provide septic tank drainage with the aid of improvement grants.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Refuse is collected weekly throughout the district. One side-loading vehicle of 12 cubic yards capacity and a Dennis Paxit are used with a second side loader in reserve.

The refuse is disposed of at a central tip near Downfield Farm, Ware. One man is employed full time on the tip and uses a Chaseside shovel for the purpose of covering the refuse. There have been no fires on the tip and no reports of flies or vermin during the year. The Council have passed a resolution under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, prescribing the size and capacity of dustbins and approving the British Standard Dustbin.

There is a byelaw in force prohibiting the deposit of any liquid matter in a dustbin. Suppliers of hardware in the district have been informed of the Council's adoption of the British Standard dustbin and it has been suggested to them that purchasers should be encouraged to buy this dustbin in preference to other types. No prosecutions were taken during the year on account of refuse being placed in receptacles other than dustbins but quite an amount of suggestion has been necessary to improve the receptacles used by many inhabitants.

The Council undertake the collection of bulky articles of household refuse (mattresses, arm chairs etc.), on request, free of charge.

PARTICULARS OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S
VISITS DURING THE YEAR 1963

Housing	254	Total brought forward	941
Complaints	212	Ice Cream Premises	1
Drainage	112	Knackers Yard	3
Water Supply	107	Slaughterhouses	459
Refuse Tips	88	Food Premises	147
Caravans	111	Rats and Mice	73
Factories	32	Licensed premises	6
Infectious Diseases	25	Miscellaneous	66
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Total carried forward	941	TOTAL	1696

HOUSING ACTS 1936 to 1954

New Housing by private enterprise

New dwellings erected -	19
Conversion or adaptations in terms of family units -	-

By Local Authority

New dwellings erected	-
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units -	-

By Other Authorities

(County Council, Police, etc.)	-
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Total properties controlled by the Council

Council Houses	1069
Temporary prefabricated bungalows	-
Sundries (including shops)	-

Slum Clearance

Little action in this direction has been taken. The number of houses in the district requiring condemnation appears to have reached a minimum although there still remains a very high percentage of dwellings where improvements are needed.

14 houses were improved with the aid of improvement grants during the year.

Details of properties dealt with under the Housing Acts are as follows:-

No. of properties dealt with in Clearance areas	-
No. of individual unfit houses	-
No. of Closing Orders made	-
No. of Undertakings given	4
No. of properties demolished	2

FOOD & DRUGS ACT

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

On the 1st September the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 came into operation. Their effect was that for the first time it became compulsory for all meat at slaughterhouses to be inspected and stamped before being removed. The Regulations empowered the Council to make a charge for carrying out the service and it was decided that a charge at the following rates would be made.

Bovines	2s. 6d.
Pigs or Calves	9d.
Sheep	6d.

Details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned during the year are shown in the following table.

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed during 1963	1214	7	72	4206	1481
No. inspected during 1963	1214	7	72	4206	1481
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci -					
Whole carcase condemned	-	1	-	-	-
Part carcase or organ condemned	106	1	3	6	19
Tuberculosis only -					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcase or organ condemned condemned	-	-	-	-	3
Cysticercosis -					
Part carcase or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Treated by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-

Other Foods condemned

Canned Foodstuffs

Fruit Nil
Meat 11 lbs.

Total weight of all foods condemned
16 cwt. 4 qtrs.

Food Premises

In addition to two slaughterhouses the following Food Premises which number as shown, were inspected from time to time during the year :-

Bakehouses	3	Sweets &	12
Butchers	8	Confectionery	
Grocers	25	Canteens	21
Fishmongers	3	Public Houses	44
Cafés	5		

Registered Food Premises

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :-

Ice Cream Premises		44
Manufacturers of)	
Sausages and)	8
Preserved Foods)	

1 new premises was licensed during the year for the sale of prepacked ice cream.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

Inspections of all food premises were made during the year. A general improvement in standards has been achieved following informal action with owners.

Biological Sampling

No samples of milk were reported as positive to the tubercle bacillus during the year.

Caravan Sites (Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960)

9 Single site licences are in operation. Apart from the sites at The Duke of Wellington Public House, Barwick (20), and Taylor's Site at Puckeridge (25); all are for individual caravans.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

Rodent Control under the above Act is in full operation in this District. The Council employ a part-time operator who is principally engaged on this work.

The table below sets out the action taken during the year:-

	Type of Property				
	Council Property	Dwell- ing Houses	Agricul tural	Business Premises	Total
No. of properties inspected	10	163	25	4	202
No. found to be infested by rats	10	163	10	4	187
No. seriously infested by mice	-	-	-	-	-
No. of properties treated for infestations	10	163	10	4	187
No. of block control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-	-

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S E C T I O N D

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following is a summary of information already supplied in detail to the Ministry of Labour and National Service on Form 572 (Revised) in respect of the year 1963.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Factories without Mechanical Power

Number on Register	-
Inspections	-

Factories with Mechanical Power

Number on Register	49
Inspections	26

Other Premises under the Act

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building Operations, Works of Engineering Construction but excluding Outworker's Premises).	7
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2. Cases in which Defects were found

<u>Defect</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Sanitary conveniences	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
Total defects referred to H.M. Inspector		Nil
Total defects referred by H.M. Inspector		2

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PART VIII of the Act

<u>OUTWORK</u> (Sections 110 and 111)	9
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